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PATENT SPECIFICATION

186,281



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## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

## Improvements in Fire Escapes or Lowering Apparatus.

I, ANTOINE JOSEPH MARIUS BAR-  
THELEMY, known as PAUL CANS, of 13,  
rue Ernest Lefevré, Paris, France,  
citizen of the Republic of France, do  
5 hereby declare the nature of this inven-  
tion and in what manner the same is to  
be performed, to be particularly described  
and ascertained in and by the following  
statement:—

10 This invention relates to improvements  
in fire escapes or lowering apparatus of  
the kind involving the employment of a  
rope which may be suspended at a con-  
venient place, for example at a window  
15 for lowering endangered persons, or for  
the salvage of goods, and comprising two  
plates connected to form a frame in  
which are mounted two fixed rollers and  
a displaceable roller around which the  
20 said lowering rope is passed in such a  
manner that the weight of the object to  
be saved causes a movement of the dis-  
placeable roller towards the fixed rollers  
to produce a braking effect between the  
25 rope and the appliance, the said braking  
effect being regulable, by the person  
descending pulling on the rope, or by a  
person at the lower end of the rope,  
pulling the free end thereof.

30 The object of the present invention is  
to provide an appliance of this kind  
which can be secured to any point in the  
length of the lowering rope without  
threading the appliance on the rope.

35 The appliance according to the inven-  
tion comprises essentially two side mem-  
bers in which the axles of the fixed rollers  
are mounted one above the other and  
which are provided between the said axles  
40 with lateral extensions in which a remov-  
able roller may be displaceably mounted  
so that a pull on the lowering rope causes  
the removable and displaceable roller to  
move towards the fixed rollers.

45 To render the appliance ready for use  
the lowering rope is suspended from a  
point convenient for descending; a loop

is passed between the two fixed rollers  
and around the removable and displace-  
able roller and the free end of the rope 50  
is pulled to draw in the loop and bring  
the latter roller close up to the fixed  
rollers.

The crowding of the rollers together  
produces a braking effect between the 55  
appliance and the rope which braking  
effect is regulable by pulling more or less  
on the free end of the rope.

The invention is illustrated by way of  
example in the accompanying drawings 60  
wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the  
device showing the method of attaching  
same to the rope,

Figure 2 is a perspective view showing 65  
the device in working order.

As will be seen, from the accompany-  
ing drawings, the appliance is consti-  
tuted by two side members *a* parallely  
located and connected by pins or bolts *g* 70  
and axles *b* bearing or supporting two  
fixed rollers *c* one above the other.

The said side members comprise  
between the said axles, lateral extensions  
*h* and *i* one of which is provided with an 75  
open horizontal or otherwise arranged  
slide *j* the ends of which are flared at *k*,  
while the other is provided with a closed  
slide *l*. The extension *i* is curved out at  
its end *m* and serves as a housing for the 80  
axle *e* of a removable roller *d*, which can  
also occupy the open position shown in  
Figure 1, or be engaged between the two  
parts *h* and *i* (Figure 2).

The axle *e* is kept in the closed slide *l* 85  
by means of a pin *n* shown by dotted lines  
on the drawing.

The linking means of the axle *e* on the  
part *i* may, of course, be any other than  
the one described, providing it allows 90  
easy passing of the loop *r* over the remov-  
able roller *d*, which can assume the posi-  
tion shown in Figure 2 and crowd more  
or less closely against the fixed rollers *c*

according to the weight or load supported by either of the pins or bolts *g* according to the arrangement of the device on the rope *c*.

5 A method of using the aforescribed escape is as follows:—

When a fireman has by any means reached a group of endangered persons, then, being provided with his rope and  
10 a number of appliances, he is enabled to get them down without any effort, either singly or in groups.

For this purpose, after having fastened the rope on any convenient part of the  
15 building, he affixes the appliance to the said rope. The endangered persons have only to hook on by means of their belts or waists and let themselves down regulating the speed themselves. If the  
20 endangered persons are incapable of regulating the speed of descent a fireman at the bottom of the rope may do so by pulling the end. The fireman at the top may confine his duties for the time being  
25 to attaching further lowering devices and superintending the descent of other endangered persons.

It is obvious that the appliance may

be used for purposes other than salvage. It can be made in the form of a toy or  
80 reduced model.

Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I  
35 claim is:—

1. A fire escape or lowering apparatus of the type referred to characterised by two side members in which the axles of the fixed rollers are mounted one above  
40 the other and which are provided between the said axles with lateral extensions in which a removable roller may be displaceably mounted, so that a pull on the lowering rope causes the removable  
45 and displaceable roller to move towards the fixed rollers.

2. A fire escape or lowering apparatus substantially as described or substantially as illustrated in the accompanying  
50 drawings.

Dated this 25th day of January, 1922.

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Chartered Patent Agents. 55

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[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]

